

The Times - Dispatch

Business Office.....115 E. Main Street
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 Lynchburg Bureau.....115 Eighth Street

BY MAIL One Six Three One
 POSTAGE PAID Year. Mo. Mo. Mo.
 Daily with Sunday.....\$4.00 \$3.00 \$1.50
 Daily without Sunday.....4.00 3.00 1.50
 Sunday edition only.....2.00 1.00 .50
 Weekly (Wednesday).....1.00 .50 .25

By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service
 in Richmond (and suburbs) and Pe-
 tersburg..... One Week
 Daily with Sunday.....15 cents
 Daily without Sunday.....10 cents
 Sunday only.....5 cents

Entered January 27, 1900, at Richmond,
 Va., as second-class matter under act of
 Congress of March 3, 1879.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1911.

THE DELHI OF THE FUTURE.

Ere the echo of the shoutings of the Durbar captains has begun to die away and the afterglow of the "barbaric and unprecedented splendor of that greatest event of its character in modern history has commenced to fade, is revived discussion of the right or the wrong of British overlordship of India. Especially in this country is the revival noticeable, and attention is called by sentimentalists and doctrinaires to the long years of British "policy of oppression and plunder of the natives." What, it is asked, are to be the practical results of further robbing the people to make an imperial holiday?

It is undeniable that from the days of John Company through the days of Clive and Hastings, down to a very recent period the record of Anglo-Saxonism in India is far from being an enviable one or reflecting entirely untarnished glory upon the conquerors. In it there is many a page blotted with tyranny, blood and ruthless desecration of traditions. The doctrine of might makes right has all too often been cruelly and unnecessarily followed. But, when a balance sheet up to the present time has been taken off, and item by item checked, it cannot be questioned that in many cases the ends have justified the means, in the interest of the world's advance and enlightenment, and even of humanity. The net difference is largely to the credit of England.

From the academic and sentimental point of view, all peoples should be permitted to govern themselves, the people of India included. But what would be the situation and conditions in Britain's Oriental empire had that principle been subjected to the test since the downfall of the Mogul power and the passing of a central government? The altruists who preach the gospel of British withdrawal from India, or virtual concession of "India for the Indians," fail to take into account the fact that there is no such thing as Indian homogeneity—an Indian nation. India represents in the earth's geographical divisions a numerous congeries of different and antagonistic tribes, tongues and religious sects, which, in the absence of a dominant, single, firm and authoritative restraining hand, would spell chaos and mean an almost incessant carnival of armed strife. Great Britain has been, since her "greedy clutch" was fastened upon the country, that restraining and paradoxically beneficent hand.

It is true that the vast majority of the natives continue steeped in poverty and ignorance, and that at times famine ravages and pestilence stalks abroad, but it is also true that the lot of the masses has improved by comparison immeasurably since enlightened British rule obtained. They are not so heavily taxed as under the Mogul rule, and whereas they got nothing in return when that absolute regime prevailed, now they get much in compensation in the way of schools, irrigation—the greatest foe of famine—canals, railways, sewerage, sanitation and, most important of all, administration of justice that knows no caste or creed. There yet remain many phases of the complex Anglo-Indian problem to solve, but to the solution the home government, with the aid of the resident authorities, is addressing itself earnestly, honestly and courageously.

As to the practical results of the "further robbery of the people" to pay for the Durbar, the expenses of which were not directly drawn from them, they may for one thing become illuminatingly manifest in the effect of the removal of the capital to Delhi—in the restoration of the venerable capital. Despite the racial and religious diversities in India, the eyes of millions of the people turn with a certain feeling of pride to and contemplation with a certain sentimentalism inspired by history, romance and traditions, that blood-drenched stronghold, the seat of power of so many dynasties, against the walls of which every Mogul invasion broke until the incursion of Timur, the Tartar, who, with his mingled horde of Muslims and Tartars, battered down its gates and turned it into a shambles. Especially in the northern and harder tribes of India are the pride and the sentiment alluded to known to exist, and what with that consideration and the moving of the heart of the government nearer to these natives, it may well be that the British have made a wise and telling bid for their loyalty and concentration against the seditious conspiring Bengalese.

It may well be that to these warrior subjects, these fighting men, it is a vast deal that their Emperor has not only re-established the capital of generations of Mogul and other dynasties agone, but, metaphorically, has been crowned on the peacock throne which Timur is said to have fashioned for himself some five centuries back, and which was carried

away into Persia by Nadir Shah when, in 1739, that freebooter sacked Delhi. It may be, indeed, in view of the late drift of Persian events, they dream of its material recovery.

The Delhi of the past was regarded as the key to India by all the raiding hordes that bore down with fire and sword upon the land from the plateau of Central Asia. The Delhi of the future may prove, and many believe it will prove, the key to the complicated enigma of India's destiny, which the British have set themselves to work out—a task which its destiny, in turn, admits of no falling back or faltering, either from the viewpoint of Great Britain's prestige and duty to herself or her duty to the world's peace, civilization and progress, as involved in the obligation to bear her share of the white man's burden.

FRAUD IN BUCHANAN.

Gross fraud is apparent in the land assessments returned from Buchanan county. Some time ago the acreage of Buchanan was listed at 3,000,000; in 1908 it was 2,256,232, and in 1910 the acreage is placed at 477,960. In his report, Auditor Donohoe says that figures for Buchanan county relative to real estate are taken from 1910 land books, because the land books of that county for 1911 "contain assessments of large tracts of land which have no existence in fact; therefore, to use those figures in this table would be misleading." In 1907 the land books of the county in question were so confused as to show an acreage for that county alone of almost one-twelfth the total area of the whole State. This is largely the result of great fraud upon capitalists in the great cities of the country who were sold large tracts of mining land which did not exist. Fake titles were sold outside of the State, resulting in creating a class of claimants for land that did not exist, who were assessed by the commissioners of revenue none the less, so that they might get their double fee when they were entitled to but a single fee.

There has been much fraudulent dealing in non-existent mining lands in Buchanan, and the next General Assembly should investigate the matter and seek to remedy the iniquitous conditions which have arisen. Commissioners of the revenue will not this year be allowed fees for fictitious land assessment, but that stops only one part of the abuse. Such fraud as has been unearthed is a disgrace to the State, and the sooner an end is put to it the better for Buchanan and the State.

THE WOMEN OUTNUMBERED.

There are more men in Virginia today than there are women. Ten years ago the reverse was true, but now the men are in a majority. The same result has taken place in New York, New Hampshire, New Jersey and Georgia. In fact, there are more women than men in only these States: Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina and the District of Columbia.

The United States Census Bureau reports that according to records made in 1910 there are 47,332,122 males and 44,640,144 females in this country. That means that if we had a compulsory marriage law, 2,700,000 men would be compelled to be bachelors. The excess of males is in the proportion of 106 to 100, while ten years ago the excess was 104.4 to 100.

Statistics show that at birth the males largely are in excess of the females, but the mortality of male children is always greater than that of female. The difference in the number decreases as time goes on. For a certain period, the mortality is about equal. In late years, men die more rapidly, so that there are more middle-aged women than men.

There are more unmarried women in New England than in any other part of the country. In that section there are 64,452 more women than men. The city of Washington has the largest percentage of unmarried women.

A NEW DEMOCRATIC STAR.

Arizona has come into the Union at last and another Democratic star has been fastened to the flag. The Democratic tidal wave has not yet subsided. It has swept Arizona, and a Democratic Governor, a Democratic Congressman and a Legislature that will elect two Democratic Senators show almost conclusively that the electoral vote of the new State will be counted next year for a Democratic President.

BUILDING SCHOOLS.

Nothing is a better index of progress in this Commonwealth than the widespread and vigorous efforts being made to improve and increase educational facilities in Virginia. In some places where the people feel that they should have adequate and modern school buildings, financial conditions have prevented the proper authorities from erecting new buildings, but the people have gone into their own pockets and put up the public school buildings at private expense. From the Bedford Bulletin is secured the information as to schools now being constructed, given below:

A new high school building is being completed at Independence, Grayson county. This cost \$4,000, three-fourths of which was contributed by the people of the community, the remainder being a loan from the State fund. The building is of frame construction, but is equipped with all modern school conveniences, including proper systems of heating and ventilation.

A \$16,000 annex is being erected to the Wytheville High School. It is of brick and has all modern arrangements. Work was begun near St. Paul's

Church, in Caroline county, on a frame high school building, to cost not less than \$2,000. The entire amount was raised by private subscription. This school will replace three one-room country schools, and will be the county's second high school.

Coeburn, Wise county, is putting up a \$20,000 high school, a bond issue having been voted for the purpose. Roanoke is building a \$100,000 grammar school building, in which all the grammar schools of the city will be gathered. Roanoke will then have three distinct classes of public schools—primary, grammar and high—in separate buildings.

PRIVATE VOCATION VS. PUBLIC VOCATION.

Vardaman, Senator-elect from Mississippi, has shaken his flowing mane in rage because a court of his State has had the effrontery to set a case in which he is involved on a date which conflicts with one of his lecture engagements. In this trial Vardaman will be charged with the illegal use of \$10,000 of the State funds, but he has petitioned for an injunction that will change the date of the case so that he can both lecture and litigate.

A number of more or less prominent members of Congress during the summer sessions of that body in 1909 and 1911 complained that they were compelled to cancel lucrative lecture engagements with Chautauques because they were detained at Washington by the extended sessions. Even Champ Clark grieved because he could not descend from the Speaker's chair and hold forth at so much per head per diem.

It is really too bad that our statesmen should be embarrassed in this way. Cannot there be an amendment to the Constitution requiring that the legislative and lecture departments shall be separate and distinct, and that Congress shall make no law and do nothing which will cause a conflict of these two departments? The present habit Congress has of attending to its business at length is becoming a restraint of trade against Tillman, La Follette, Champ Clark and other famous lecturers temporarily residing in Congress. Why not take a broad view of it and say to these Chautauqua Congressmen: "If lecturing interferes with Congress, cut out Congress?"

THE PROBLEM OF SUPERVISING TEACHERS.

In a very thoughtful article in the December number of Education, E. F. Fishback, a school principal, discusses the problem "How in dealing with teachers, can the ideals of the superintendent or principal best be carried out?" Mr. Fishback stands firmly for discipline and the legitimate and wise authority of the superintendent or principal, but he maintains that in order to insure the one and enforce the other, so as to command the best work both from the teacher and the pupil, first and foremost the loyalty of the teacher must be secured.

There are superintendents and principals, he notes, who may feel proud of themselves, and think they are getting things done if by a wave of the hand they can cause the whole teaching corps to quake. These command obedience, but not loyalty, however. The teacher may try to please such a superintendent or principal while he is present, although his orders are against their judgment, yet, after he leaves, the situation and impulse are very different, and the orders are carried out only in a half-hearted way. These above should not forget, Mr. Fishback lays down as an axiom, that those below have also a sphere of authority, and, in order that the former may be guaranteed the genuine loyalty of the latter, he argues, "there must be a keen sense of respect of the teacher's authority on the part of the superintendent or principal."

It is the little thing that counts the human nature element that tells more than anything else in solving the problem, the "don't," more than the "does" at the last, Mr. Fishback holds, and by way of illustration he goes into some details.

There is, he affirms, and soundly, we agree, a sphere in which the teacher should reign, and any meddling, especially in the case of the woman teacher, destroys self confidence and tends to induce over-consciousness. It is humiliating, he points out, to a teacher to have a principal or superintendent come into the room, walk to the window and raise or lower the blinds to suit his own ideas, without consulting her. "It puts her in a bad light before the pupils," and, obviously, as the writer implies, lowers the respect of the children for the teacher. Again, observes Mr. Fishback, it makes a teacher diffident to have her recitation taken unceremoniously from her by one who has not prepared for it, who understands nothing of the purpose of this particular lesson, and whose only excuse for taking it is his authority. Mr. Fishback admits that a principal or superintendent has all power, and logically all power, to take a pupil from the room without the consent of the teacher, but he doubts seriously the discretion of exercising it, and runs no chances of making a mistake in saying that the superintendent or principal would find that he makes more self-reliant and reliable teachers if he asks permission to talk to the child.

Another thing Mr. Fishback strongly antagonizes is the habit of some principals and superintendents of dealing with teachers as some teachers deal with children—that is to say, giving the teacher all the details of work without even a chance to express themselves. The evil of this, of not permitting a teacher to suggest, is clear, he thinks, and so it strikes us, when we reflect that not only are teachers more interested in a course of study they help to make, but they

follow it more intelligently after it is made.

In conclusion, and in emphasizing his contention that the easiest way to solve the problem, and the best and the easiest way, lies not through arbitrariness, but through mutual respect of authority in the supervising and teaching spheres, respectively, together with proper regard for the subordinate's sensibilities, Mr. Fishback says: "After all, human nature is the same in all of us. No one cares to do things that are against his judgment, and it makes any of us doubtful of our skill and halting in our thoughts and actions, if instructions are given in too great detail. By patiently working and waiting, a principal or superintendent may see the results of his labors with no show of authority, except in the rare case that always comes up for special consideration."

The article in its entirety may be read with profit by superintendents and principals and teachers and school authorities generally, for it contains valuable suggestions even to those to whom the special conditions and drawbacks Mr. Fishback criticizes do not come home. It is a very intelligent discussion of the co-ordination and co-operation that should obtain in the school system—a most sensible lesson on the subject.

No, Gwendolyn, there is no law against hanging up the Christmas mistletoe early.

"The small, dark girl is to become the fashion," says an exchange. Hair dye will take care of the darkness, but just how some of the statuesque blondes can become small is the question.

The State fire marshal of Wisconsin makes this timely contribution to current Christmas literature:

"There can be found no better recipe for a giant firebrand than the following: Take twigs of resinous trees, fastenings of leaves, wreaths of tissue paper, bags of netting, cotton batting, fluffy clothes for dolls, toys of dry, painted wood, ornaments of explosive celluloid; fix and insert a few dozen candles, and label Christmas tree, or the ideal incendiary."

It is well to remember this.

Voice of the People

Better Pay for the Firemen.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir,—I noticed a few days since in the columns of your valuable paper the item of a Richmond fireman's application for an increase of pay before the Honorable Board of Aldermen and Council. I think that of all the employees of the city of Richmond, considering the hours they are required to be on duty, and dangers they have to contend with, and deprived of the pleasures of life and times, and being required at all times to be properly uniformed, they are the poorest paid men in the service of the city. At a casual glance the average citizen might say they are well paid. I have, Mr. Editor, taken the trouble to figure out their pay monthly, daily and hourly, and give you this information below, which I hope you will be kind enough to publish, and especially call the attention of the Board of Aldermen and Council to the confinement and duties of these men, who have given to the world, by their acts of bravery and the faithful discharge of their duties, the information that Richmond has one of the best fire departments in the country. There is not an hour, day or night, whether in the engine house or out, that they are not required to attend fires or pay a fine, unless sick. Below please find a tabulated statement of their pay:

Per Month	Per Day	Per Hour
Captain.....\$91.66	\$3.65	12-17-24
Engineers.....30.00	3.00	12-1-2
Helpers.....22.50	2.25	11-11-24
Drivers.....22.50	2.25	11-11-24
Extra station men.....77.00	2.56	2-31-16-24
Call men.....22.00	72-1-3	31-3

Now, Mr. Editor, for hours performed, these men do not receive as much as a laborer for digging ditches. When you take into consideration the class of men of which our fire department is composed, I think any right-thinking man would say it is a shame not to give them more money, especially when you look at the cost of living. As a taxpayer and voter I earnestly hope you may take this matter up and use your influence for these men, who are just as essential for the protection of the lives and property of our citizens as the soldier in time of war. I am not writing this from any selfish or political standpoint, as I have no aspirations for any office, but feel it a duty that I owe to our brave firemen.

TAXPAYER.

A Christmas Warning.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir,—These of us who have small children under our care ought to be very careful as to how we use mistletoe, as the berries are deadly poison. Many of our children, because of eating mistletoe berries, have been poisoned, as I have no doubt in writing this from the Times-Dispatch last night. I, for one, did not know before I saw those accounts that the berries were poisonous, and if I had would not have thought them dangerous, but I shall be very careful in the future. I am writing this with the hope that others will be warned and be careful too.

C. L. Z.

Amelia.

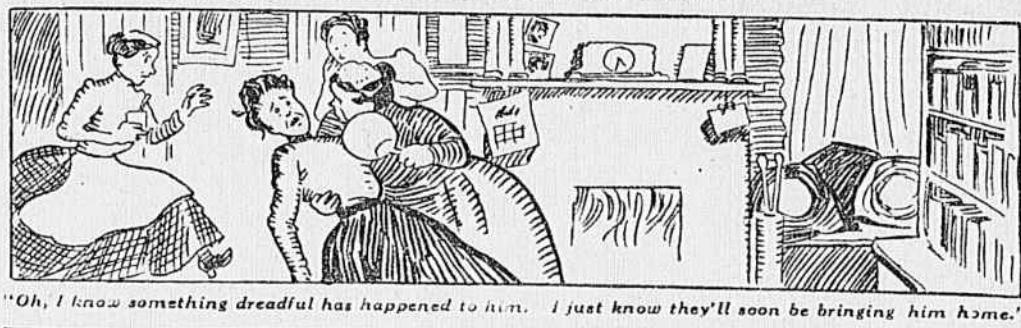
Abe Martin



Th trouble about puttin' your name on your umbrella is that th' owner of th' one you take by mistake kiks you back on you. Th' nearer th' eng' o' th' first act women come t' th' t'ner th' wider th' hair gets.

A PICTORIAL SERMONETTE.

By John T. McCutcheon.



La Marquise de Fontenoy

In writing of the Gaekwar of Baroda in these letters during the past few years, I have frequently mentioned that he was persona non grata with reigning house of England. Perhaps the news that he has been cited as co-respondent in the Statham versus Statham divorce case in London, taking in conjunction with the fact that he is of an origin so plebeian, and of a caste so low, that nearly all the other Princes of India, among whom pride of birth, blueness of blood and purity of lineage are carried to the extreme, look upon him almost in the light of a Pariah, whose very touch is contamination, may serve to explain the attitude of King George and of Queen Mary towards him.

There is no prospect of the Gaekwar putting in an appearance in this divorce suit, for he is exempt from the jurisdiction of the ordinary English tribunals. This was determined by the British Supreme Court of Appeal some fifteen years back, in the case of the late Sultan of Johore, who, under the incognito name of "Alfred Baker," first wooed and then deserted, under circumstances of particular cruelty, a spinster lady of the English middle class, a resident of Brighton, in Sussex. She thereupon brought suit against him for breach of promise, the case being aggravated by betrayal. But her petition was thrown out of court, on the ground that the Sultan of Johore was entitled to all the prerogatives of the way of ex-territoriality, including immunity from the jurisdiction of the British tribunals, as a sovereign ruler of the Orient, subject to the suzerainty of the Queen of England, and who had masqueraded in England under the incognito of "Alfred Baker."

The same procedure will be followed in the case of the Gaekwar of Baroda, since the Secretary of State has already furnished the president of the divorce court with a certificate to the effect that the Gaekwar is recognized by Great Britain as a reigning sovereign, governing his own dominions, under the suzerainty of Emperor George.

I do not know as yet whether the Gaekwar of Baroda was present at the Durbar last week. But what I can assert, in the most positive fashion, is that he was conspicuous by his absence from the Durbar of 1903, for the proclamation of Edward VII. as Kaiser of India; also that after accepting the invitation to attend, and even after starting on the journey to Delhi, he remained away at the last moment, in consequence of his knowledge of the insulting manner in which all the other great and small vassal rulers and Princes of India would be treated from him, and would subject him to the most contemptuous form of ostracism and boycott.

Those who know India best do not hesitate to assert that the Gaekwar (who has a son studying at Harvard) is the prime mover and financial backer of all the anti-English agitation in India, and it is an undeniable fact that in the case of nearly every royalist and terrorist outrage by the natives against the English authorities in the last ten or fifteen years, the means and the inspiration of the crime have always been traced to Baroda. If the English government continues to treat the Gaekwar with a certain amount of forbearance and consideration, instead of removing him from his throne, as it did in the case of his predecessor, it is because they

believe that he can be kept under sufficiently close surveillance to obviate the necessity of ascertaining the whereabouts of the people of Baroda by resorting to such an extreme measure as his deposition and imprisonment.

It may be recalled that the British government was obliged to resort to such an extremity in the case of the Gaekwar of Baroda, and of imprisoning him for the remainder of his days, owing to his anti-British manoeuvres, including an attempt to poison the British plenipotentiary in Baroda, Colonel Phayre, with powdered glass. The present Gaekwar was not at the time in the immediate line of succession, and there were other members of the reigning house of Baroda who had rights vastly superior to his own. If he was chosen, it was because he was a mere boy at the time, and the English government fondly imagined that it would be able to bring him up to be a thoroughly exemplary vassal prince, imbued with notions of gratitude and loyal friendship towards England. In this the British government made a great mistake.

Although every one is aware that the great island of Anticosti, at the mouth of the St. Lawrence River, belongs to a French citizen, Henri Menier, of chocolate manufacturing fame, but few know that another important island, or rather group of islands, known as the Magdalen Archipelago, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, are likewise in French hands. Although they were originally granted as a free gift by King George III. in 1792 to Admiral Sir Isaac Coffin, at the request of the latter's friend, Lord Dorchester, in recognition of his services in defeating the French in numerous battles at sea, yet the head of the Coffin family, which still owns the archipelago, is a French citizen, like his father and his grandfather before him, a chevalier of the Legion of Honor, and makes his home partly in Paris, and partly in the Morbihan. His authority is represented on the islands by a resident agent, whose name, I believe, is M. Fontana. The population numbers 6,000, of whom about 55 per cent. are French-Canadians, or entirely French. Anticosti is to-day populated in much the same way; that is to say, by Canadian-French, or else by fellow-citizens of the owner, Henri Menier.

Of course both Henri Menier and the

Magdalen Archipelago, hold these islands subject to the sovereignty of the British crown, and are amenable to the jurisdiction of the Canadian Dominion. But in the event of any rupture of the entente cordiale between Great Britain and France, that would not prevent the islands becoming a source of considerable trouble, if not absolute danger, to Great Britain.

The Magdalens were first discovered in 1534, by Jacques Cartier, in 1633 the company of New France granted them to Sieur Doubiet, a ship owner of Honfleur, who named them the Magdalens, in honor of his wife. In 1719 the French King ceded them to the Comte de St. Pierre, at the instance of the Duchesse d'Orleans, and the first people to reside there permanently were some Acadian families, who came from St. Peter's Bay, Prince Edward's Island, in 1757, and found employment under a retired English officer of the name of Gridley, who opened an establishment to trade in walrus and seal oil. In 1792 Admiral Sir Isaac Coffin expelled them, and thinking it would be very nice to own a Canadian archipelago, obtained a grant thereof from King George, through his friend, Lord Dorchester.

Now that the winter months are with us, it may be worth while recalling the fact that the pastime of skating was known in this country, or rather in New York, fully forty years before it was ever taken up in England, that is to say, skating on blades of metal. It was introduced here by the Dutch, who founded the city of New Amsterdam, which is now New York. But skating was unknown in Great Britain until after the return of King Charles to England, and his restoration to the throne in 1660, when a number of his Cavaliers, who had formed his entourage during his prolonged exile in Holland, and who had become adept in the art of skating there, started to give it a vogue in England. Before skates (from the Dutch word schaats) were introduced into England, Londoners amused themselves in winter, we are told, by "tying bones to their feet, and shoving themselves along swiftly on the ice with a pointed staff." (Copyright, 1911, by the Brentwood Company.)

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